## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Takamasa Iwaki et al.

Serial No.:

10/539,870

Filed:

December 5, 2005

For

Floor Mat and Small Animal Rearing Cage

Examiner:

Son T. Nguyen

Art Unit:

3643

## **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted in conjunction with a Request for Continued Examination filed in response to the Office Action dated July 18, 2007 for which a shortened statutory period of three months ending October 18, 2007 was set in which to respond. Please consider the following amendments and comments and reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that in view of the attached Certificate of Mailing this response is timely.

Listing/Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.